

By the King.



Whereas much as the Kings Maestie our Soueraigne Lord is credibly informed, that the infection of the plague is at this present in sundry places in and about the Citie of London, and in other places neere adioyning to the same, where as by the continuance thereof, through the greater repaire and resort of his lousing Subjects, great perill & danger might not only ensue vnto his most royall Person, but also to his most lousing Subjects repairing thither for their suites and causes, and thereby also giue occasion of dispersing of the same into other partes of the Realme : His Maestie for the sayd necessary considerations, and hoping that the same wil by the goodnesse of Almighty God with the coldnesse of the yeere, and such wholesome Orders as are taken in his sayd Citie, the rather cease by the adiournement of part of this next Tearme of Saint Michael now at hand, from the Vras of the same, vntill the fourth returne of the sayd Terme, called Mense Michaelis next comming, His Maestie therefore of his especiall fauour and clemencie is pleased and contented to adiourne the sayd Terme of Saint Michael (that is to say) from the Vras thereof, vnto the sayd fourth returne of the sayd Terme called Mense Michaelis next comming, which his Maestie signifieth to all and singuler his lousing Subjects of this his Realme, to the intent that they and euery of them which hath cause or commandement to appeare in any of his Highnesse Courts at Westminster in or at any day or time from and after the sayd Vras of Saint Michael, may tary at their dwellings, or where their busynesse otherwise shall lie, without resorting to any of the sayd Courts for that cause before the sayd Mense Michaelis next comming, and that without danger of forfeiture, penaltie, or contempt to incurre towards his Highnesse in that behalfe. And neverthelesse, his Maesties pleasure is, that two of his Justices, (that is to say) of either Bench one, shal the first day of Michaelmas Terme, called Octabis Michaelis, according to the ancient order of the Lawes, keepe the Essoynes of the sayd Octabis Michaelis: at which Vras of Saint Michael, wrights of adiournment shal be directed to the said Justices, giuing them authority to adiourne the said Terme of Saint Michael (that is to say,) from the Vras thereof, vntill the fourth returne, as before is sayd: And the sayd Adiournment shal be made in the first day of the sayd Vras, commonly called the day of Essoynes. And further his Maesties pleasure is, that all matters, causes and Suits depending in any of his other Courts betwene partie and partie, as in his Highnesse Courts of Chancerie, Starchamber, and Exchequer, Courts of Wardes and Liveries, Dutchy of Lancaster, and Court of Requests, shall haue continuance, and the parties shall haue day from the date of these presents vntill the sayd fourth Returne, as before is sayd.

Provided alway, and his Maesties pleasure and commandement is, that all Collectors, Receiuers, Sheriffes and other Accomptants, and all other Persons that shoulde or ought to accompt or pay any Summe or Summes of money in any of his Maesties Courts of Exchequer, Court of Wardes and Liveries, and of his Duchie of Lancaster, or in any of them, or to enter into any Accompt in any of the said Courts, shall repaire vnto his Maesties house of Richmond, where his Highnesse hath appointed such Officers and Ministers, as for that purpose his Maestie hath thought expedient, and there to pay and doe in every behalfe, as though no such Proclamation of Adiournement had bee ne had or made. And his Highnesse further pleasure and commaundement is, that all Sheriffes shall returne their Writs and Proces, against all such Accomptants and Debtors, at the dayes therin appointed. And if any Person or Persons who ought to accompt or pay any Summe or Summes of money to his Maestie in any of the Courts and places aforesaid, doe make default therein, That then his Highnesse Writs and Proces shall be awarded and sent soorth against every such Person and Persons, and the same to bee duely and orderly serued, and returned by the Sheriffes and Officers thereunto appointed, in such like maner and forme, as the same shoulde haue beeene if this present Proclamation had not bene made. And if any Sheriffe or other Officer shall make default, or be negligent in seruing, executing, or returning of any the Writs and Proces aforesaid, That then every such Sheriffe and other Officer, shall incurre such paines and penalties, as by the said Courts or any of them shall bee taxed and assed. Willing and commanding all and euery his Maesties Sheriffes, Officers, Ministers and Subjects to whome it doeth or shall appertaine, to obserue and keepe their assemblies and Apparances, with all their Returns and Certificates, in his Highnesse said Courts at Westminster in Mense Michaelis next comming, then and there to be holden and kept, and there to doe their offices and dueties in every behalfe, in like manner and forme as they shoulde or ought to haue done, if this present Proclamation had not beeene had or made, as they will answere to the contrarie at their perils. Given at his Maesties Mannour of Woodstocke the sixteenth day of September 1603, in the first yeere of his Highnesse Reigne of England, France and Ireland, and of Scotland the seuen and thirtieth.

God sauе the King.

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the Kings most excellent Maestie. Anno 1603.